

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 PM-05 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ACDA-12 L-03 MCE-00 HA-05
DODE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /082 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH:JZ
APPROVED BY AF:WCHARROP
EUR/WE:JDOBBINS
AF/C:LDJUNIOR
NEA:SSOBER
S/P:MSPIEGEL
PM:MCELROY

-----128620 020302Z /73

O P 020216Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY VALLETTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 027625

VALLETTA AND LONDON FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
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TAGS: MASS, MOPS

SUBJECT:REBEL ACTIVITY IN CHAD

REFS: A) NDJAMENA 413, B) NDJAMENA 429, C) NDJAMENA 370

1. REFS A AND B REPORT REBEL ATTACK ON KEY CHADIAN GARRISON OF FAYA-LARGEAU AND CHADIAN GOVERNMENT APPEAL TO U.S. FOR URGENT MILITARY ASSISTANCE. FOLLOWING MESSAGE REQUESTS INFORMATION WHICH WILL ASSIST DEPARTMENT IN ANSWERING THIS REQUEST.

2. FOR PARIS: WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS: DO FRENCH KNOW FATE OF THREE FRENCH AIRCREW MEMBERS DOWNED NEAR FAYA-LARGEAU JANUARY 28 BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE? DO THEY HAVE ANY INFORMATION THAT THESE MEN ARE PRISONERS?

3. WHAT IS CURRENT FRENCH ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION IN NORTHERN CHAD? WOULD APPRECIATE PERIODIC UPDATES OF FRENCH ASSESSMENT. IN PARTICULAR, CAN FRENCH SUPPLY INTELLIGENCE REGARDING COMPOSITION OF FORCE ATTACKING FAYA-LARGEAU AND SOPHISTICATION OF WEAPONS EMPLOYED?

4. COULD WE HAVE SUMMARY OF FRENCH INTENTIONS TO PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD TO MEET PRESENT THREAT, AND FRENCH REPLY TO MALLOUM'S REQUEST FOR DIRECT FRENCH INTERVENTION?

5. FOR CAIRO: WHAT IS LIKELIHOOD SADAT WILL RAISE CHADIAN SITUATION WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AS SUGGESTED REF C? DID CHAD REQUEST EGYPTIAN INTERVENTION AS NOTED REF A? CONFIDENTIAL

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6. FOR KINSHASA: REF A REPORTS CHADIANS HAVE REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM MOBUTU. WHAT IS ZAIRIAN REPLY LIKELY TO BE?

7. FOR TRIPOLI: WOULD APPRECIATE ASSESSMENT OF LIBYAN INVOLVEMENT IN NORTHERN CHAD AT PRESENT, IN PARTICULAR LIBYAN SUPPLIES TO TOUBOU REBELS OF SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT AND POSSIBLE LIBYAN INVOLVEMENT IN ATTACKING FORCE.

8. FOR NDJAMENA: YOU SHOULD SUGGEST TO CHADIAN GOVERNMENT THAT IT SEND MISSION TO TEHRAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO REQUEST TRANSFER OF U.S. ORIGIN MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

9. FOR TEHRAN: AS APPROPRIATE, YOU SHOULD SUPPORT CHADIAN EFFORT TO SECURE MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM IRAN WITHIN GUIDELINES PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED (STATE 308095).

10. FOR JIDDA: YOU SHOULD BRIEF SAUDI OFFICIALS ON DEVELOPING SITUATION IN CHAD. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INDICATION THAT SAUDIS MAY NOW BE DISPOSED TO ASSIST,

EITHER BY FINANCING CHADIAN PURCHASE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT
OR BY PERMITTING TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT NOW IN SAUDI
INVENTORY.

11. FOR LIBREVILLE: YOU SHOULD RAISE WITH GABONESE
GOVERNMENT POSSIBILITY OF CONVOKING OAU GROUP TO MEDIATE
CHAD/LIBYAN DISPUTE. YOU SHOULD NOTE OUR SUPPORT FOR SUCH
A MEETING AND OFFER TO RAISE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH
PRESIDENT BONGO, WHO WE UNDERSTAND IS NOW IN FRANCE OR
FRG.

12. FOR ALL POSTS: IF ASKED, YOU MAY REPLY THAT CHADIAN
GOVERNMENT HAS CALLED PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION AROUND
FAYA-LARGEAU TO OUR ATTENTION, AND HAS ASKED FOR ASSIS-
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TANCE. WE ARE CONSIDERING WHETHER THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY
OF U.S. RESPONSE IN VIEW LEGAL AND CONGRESSIONAL
CONSTRAINTS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Litigation Codes:
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